Road Construction Works in Tamil Nadu

3045. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of on-going road construction works in Tamil Nadu sanctioned by the Central Government under Central Road Fund;

(b) the details and estimated costs involved therein;

(c) the funds allocated by Government for these schemes;

(d) whether the complete amount has been sanctioned by the Central Government; and

(e) if not, the time by when the balance is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Fifteen schemes amounting to Rs. 1066.44 lakh relating to Roads and Bridges are under execution in Tamil Nadu under Central Road Fund.

(c) to (e) Allocation of funds is done under Central Road Fund in lump-sum and not work-wise taking into account the total cost of schemes approved for the State, total funds released previously, inter-se priority on All India basis, requirements projected by the State and availability of budget provision. However, funds released to Tamil Nadu for on-going works under Central Road Fund during the last three years, year-wise is as under:—

Year	Rs. in lakh
1991-92	60.00
1992-93	50.00
1993-94	80.00

Since release of funds under Central Road Fund depends upon the availability of budget provision, it is difficult to indicate the time by when the balance would be released.

Functioning of Major Ports in India

3046. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to improve the functioning of major ports;

(b) whether it is a fact that the turn around time for ships in India compares unfavourably with advanced South-East Asian Countries;

(c) what is the average turn around time for ships in major ports in India;

(d) whether it is a fact that the turn around time has not improved in Indian ports in Eighth Plan; and

(e) if so, what concrete steps Government have taken in Eighth Plan to tackle this problem of shaddy and inefficient handling of loading and unloading of ships?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This is true only for Container Vessels.

(c) The average turn round time for ships at Major Ports in India during 1993-94 was 6.9 days.

(d) No Sir, the average turn round time for ships at Major Ports in India has improved from 7.5 days in 1992-93 to 6.9 days in 1993-94.

(e) During the Eight Five Year Plan an out-lay of Rs. 2948.00 crores has been provided for modernising the ports and improving thier productivity.

Construction of Shipyard in Hazira

3047. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state: